

Hello. My name is Rae Smith and I work in the state GED® testing office. Today we are going to talk about GED Ready™: The Official Practice Test.

Since you are the folks who actually administer the GED Ready™ test, you are going to be the experts on many aspects of this test. However, there is some overall testing information I can share along with some resources for your easy access.

The presentation is divided into two parts. The first section deals with information about the GED Ready™ test. After that section we will have a time for questions.

The second section is about administering the GED Ready™ test in a corrections setting. We will also have a time for questions following that section.

We will answer as many questions as we can during the live event, and then follow up with any unanswered questions after the webinar. All questions and answers will be posted on our website along with a copy of the presentation and notes.



Preparation for and Performance on the GED Test

*GED Testing
Service
Research
Studies, 2009*

<http://www.gedtestingervice.com/uploads/files/6eecf83fd98c19fa281b5ef87cb52ef1.pdf>

In August of 2009, GED Testing Service® published a research paper called “*Preparation for and Performance on the GED Test.*” One of the chief findings of the research was that whatever preparation method a person chose, even if it was no preparation, performance on the GED® test was improved if the person took a practice test. This is an informative study and I have included a link to it on the slide above because it is clear GED Testing Service® used findings from the study in the design of the 2014 GED® testing system.

The positive impact of the practice test was not really news to those of us in Kentucky. We have been requiring our test-takers to take the practice test since 1995. During that time, we saw pass rates on the GED® test improve from 69% to over 80%.

We are continuing the eligibility requirement that all Kentucky test-takers pass the practice test before they can schedule and take the GED® test. What is new is that a student can now take and pass a single module (or content area) of the GED Ready™ test and then proceed directly to that same module of the actual GED® test. Test-takers no longer need to pass all four modules before they can begin any part of the GED® test.

If a student is unable to proceed to schedule the GED® test after passing a GED Ready™ module, please make sure the student does not have an age alert that must be cleared because they are younger than 19.



- ❑ Online test (delivered over the Internet)
- ❑ Through same secure Pearson Testing System as the GED® test

GED Ready™ is an online test. You take it through GED.com

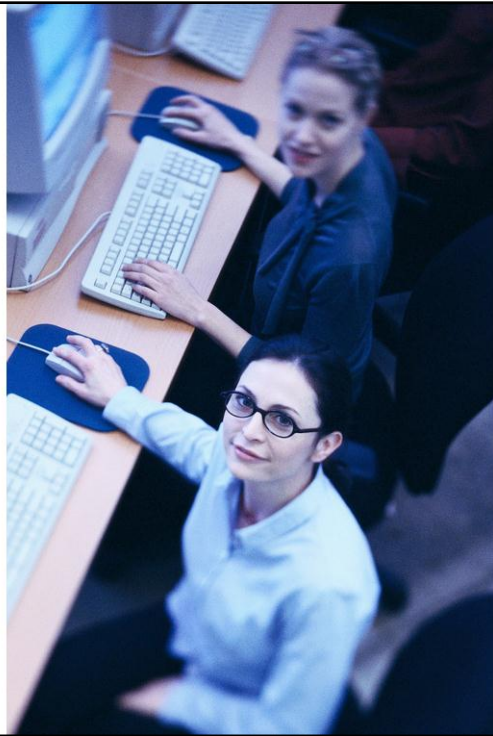
There is not a paper and pencil version of this test. It is a computer test and the functionality would be lost.

If it is a setting that does not allow Internet access, such as a corrections center, the test can be delivered through the same secure Pearson Testing System as the GED® test. We will talk more about that option later.

GED Ready™ is a one-half version of the GED® test. There is not a full-length version (same length as GED® test) available.

Currently, there are two forms of the GED Ready™ test available.

- ❑ Tells students if they are likely to pass
- ❑ Focused study plans
- ❑ Same-day scores



GED Ready™ has basically the same look and feel as the operational GED® test--with a few exceptions which we will address. It gives students firsthand experience answering computer-based test questions that went through the same norming and standardization study that the official exam went through. That means the questions are designed to mimic the official exam and have proven to be predictive of how a student will perform on the official test.

Test-takers who receives scores of 158 and above are likely to receive passing scores on the GED® test.

You pass the GED Ready™ test if you make 150 on any of the modules. This still puts you in the “too close to call category”, but a student is able to clear the Ready™ test alert with a score of 150 and proceed to schedule the GED® test. Student should carefully consider whether more instruction is needed before proceeding to the GED® test.

Now, they have tools that will help them target the areas that need improvement so they can improve their scores.



Enhanced Score Report

- ❑ Scores and successful skills reported
- ❑ Identifies specific skills test-taker missed
- ❑ Test-taker can choose study materials to get study recommendations
- ❑ Access synced study materials available in print and online
- ❑ Receive detailed diagnostic report within 3 hours of testing

The enhanced score report is one of the things students and educators are reporting as beneficial. All the objective parts of the GED Ready™ test are scored by a computer and scores are available right away.

The best part is test-takers now know what they are getting correct and what they are missing. They are also provided information directly to study materials so they can gain the knowledge and skills they need to be successful. We have seen students make marked improvements on GED Ready™ test scores. Someone “not likely to pass” or “too close to call” will know exactly what to study to make improvements.



No Embedded Calculator

- ❑ Use a handheld scientific calculator, such as the TI-30xs
- ❑ Access a [free online calculator](#)
- ❑ Use the one provided on your computer.

Unlike the operational GED® test, the Ready™ test does not include an embedded calculator. When students log in to take a Ready™ test module that allows the use of a calculator, they are given the three calculator options listed on this slide.

GED Testing Service® recommends that all test-takers view the calculator tutorial before taking the operational GED® test.

Trained Educator Review Required for Written Responses



<http://www.gedtestingservice.com/educators/2014testresources>

Another way the Ready™ test is different from the operational GED® test is that the written responses on GED Ready™ are not able to be scored online, just the objective test questions are scored. While the Ready™ test results are still highly predictive, the written responses are not factored into the score the student receives online. The student is provided with what a typical written response would look like to compare to their own response. Students need assistance from a trained educator in order to find out if their writing skills and responses are at a level that would be successful on the GED® test.

Adult educators should have students print out or email their written responses from the GED Ready™ test to a trained educator so that the student can receive diagnostic feedback about their responses.

There are Educator Scoring Tools and Resource Guide for instructors to use for scoring the Social Studies, Language Arts and Science ERs (extended responses) and SAs (short answer responses) at the following link

<http://www.gedtestingservice.com/educators/2014testresources> The links to the scoring guides can be found toward the bottom of each subject area listed.



And you thought we were tough having practice test scores expire in 6 months . . .

“Expire” means that after 60 days GED Testing Service® no longer thinks the results are predictive of success on the GED® test.

Test-takers remain in an exception queue with an alert for each module until they pass the practice test for that module. After they pass it, they are removed from the queue for the module they passed and can schedule.

Our understanding from our account managers at GED Testing Service® is there is not a time limit for scheduling the operational test module after the test-taker is removed from the exception queue.



- ▣ Job Corps Centers
- ▣ GED® Options Program
- ▣ Youth Detention Centers

GED Ready™ test can be taken in any location where there is Internet access.

In the past, we have required that adult education centers administer the practice test to GED® Options students and in youth detention centers. We no longer require that.

You may continue to test those if you choose to do so, or the local school or facility can purchase the Ready™ test vouchers and test their own students.

Product Information

Sample Erasable Note boards

Description: Help students prepare for the GED® test on computer by using the sample erasable note boards as a teaching tool. These note boards are a sample of what test-takers will use on test day, measure 8.5 x 14 inches, are designed to be used with an erasable marker, and can be wiped clean after each use.

Instructions:

Each pack includes five, 8.5x14 inch note boards and one erasable marker. These note boards are a sample and cannot be used during test day.

For more information about the official Pearson VUE note board available during test day, visit
<http://www.gedtesting.com/noteboards>

SKU: GEDTS-7001

Description: Erasable Noteboards (Pack of 5 w/ 1 Dry Erase Pen)

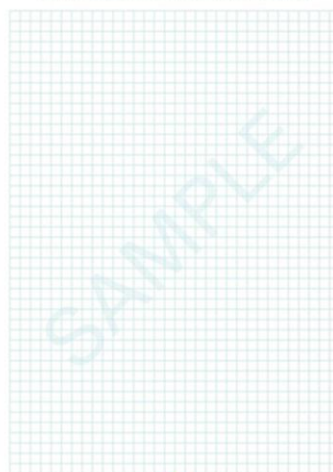
Order Information

Packs Available: 1790

Lead Time: 1 Business Day

Packs:	1+
Unit Price:	\$0.00

2014 GED® PROGRAM ERASABLE NOTEBOARD SAMPLE

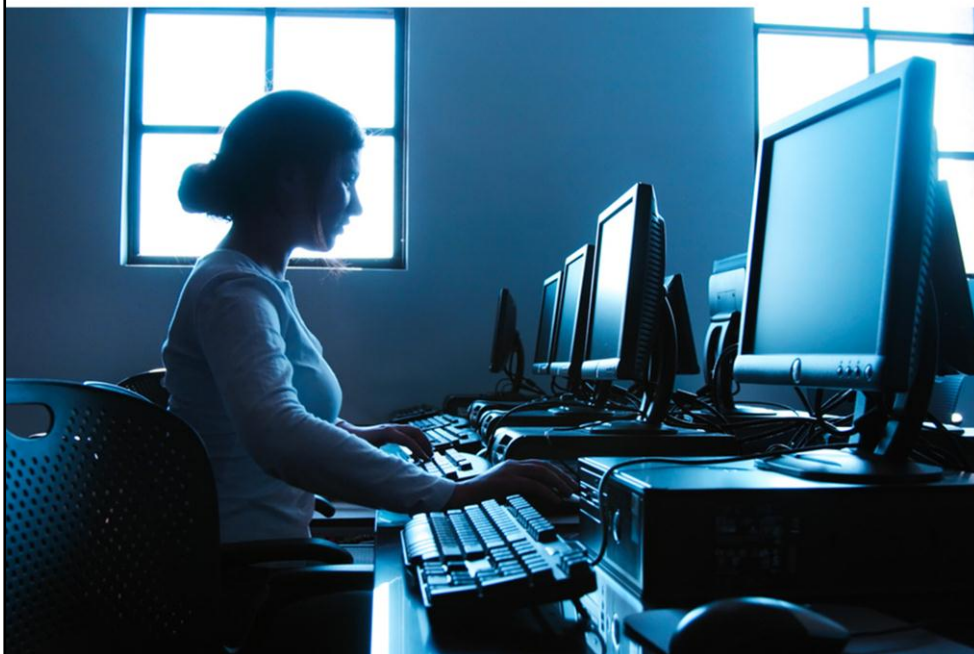


Erasable Note boards are used for GED® testing rather than scratch paper.

If you want erasable note boards for the Ready™ test, you may be able to obtain them free from KET.

They can also be ordered for just the cost of shipping from BrandCentral at
https://marcomcentral.app.pti.com/printone/login.aspx?uigroup_id=15287&setcookie_detect=1

Questions



Please follow this link <http://kyae.ky.gov/educators/GEDhottopics.htm> to access questions and answers from the webinar.

Administering GED Ready™ in a Corrections Setting



If the correctional center allows Internet access for inmates, then the adult educator can administer the GED Ready™ test at the center. Please ask your jailer if Internet access can be allowed for the classroom and/or testing. Many jailers are now allowing this.

If the correctional center does not allow inmates to have Internet access, GED Ready™ can be delivered through the same secure system used to deliver the GED® test. While teachers can be involved, the secure testing system makes it impossible for them to handle the actual registration and scheduling. Pearson VUE requirements stipulate that in order to access, set up an account or schedule a test one has to be a certified test center administrator. Teachers cannot be test administrators.



Correctional Center is Pearson VUE Testing Center

If the jail does not allow inmate access to the internet and is a Pearson VUE Testing Center, the test administrator has to set up the student account through GED Manager and schedule through Registration Manager. There isn't another way for the teacher to do this for student inmates--such as setting up inmate accounts by using MYGED.

Once an inmate is registered, the test administrator can schedule and download the content test. Again, this requires certification as a test center administrator.

All the state prisons are Pearson VUE testing centers.

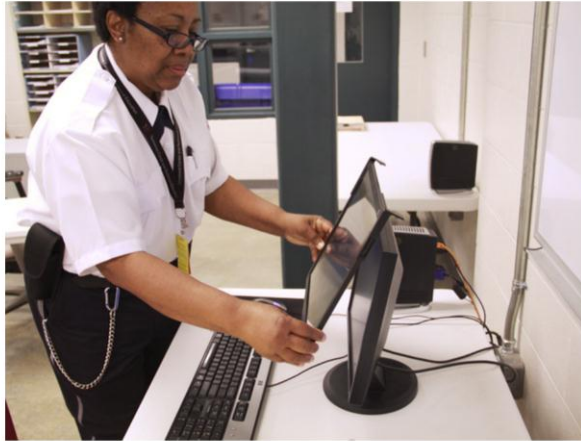
If the administrator computer has to be physically taken to the test room and then wired to deliver the test to the test-taker computers, the teacher can do that if they have the technology skills to network the computers.



Mobile Testing

If the correctional center does not allow Internet access to inmates and is not a Pearson VUE testing center, but has a center come to the jail to test, the mobile test provider would have to register and schedule the inmate test-takers.

If GED Ready™ tests have already been loaded, then the teacher could bring the administrative machine in and deliver the Ready™ test if the mobile provider agrees to let the teacher use the equipment, and the teacher has the ability to set up and network the computers.



Access to the Pearson registration and scheduling system is limited to certified Test Center Administrators.

Again, in jails that do not allow Internet access, access to the Pearson system is required to download and schedule the GED Ready™ test. Access to register and schedule is limited to certified Test Center Administrators.



Please follow this link <http://kya.e.ky.gov/educators/GEDhottopics.htm> to access questions and answers from the webinar.

Resource Sheet

- ❑ Calculator Options for the GED Ready™ test
- ❑ Formula Sheet
- ❑ Calculator Tutorial (for the GED® test)
- ❑ 2014 Computer-Based Test Tutorial
- ❑ Educator Scoring Tools for Written Responses
- ❑ Item Samplers
- ❑ Free practice test (1/4 length of GED® test)



Please follow this link <http://kya.ky.gov/educators/GEDhottopics.htm> to access the above resource sheet with links from the webinar.

Thank you



Handout and presentation with notes at
<http://kyae.ky.gov/educators/GEDhottopics.htm>

Ask questions at GED@KY.gov

Find your handout and this presentation with notes at
<http://kyae.ky.gov/educators/GEDhottopics.htm>.

If you have questions, please email them to GED@KY.gov

Questions and answers are posted on the KYAE website at
<http://kyae.ky.gov/educators/GEDhottopics.htm>.

Thank you.